Public Notice

Applicant:

Date:

The Zaremba Company

Published: Expires:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

In Reply Refer To:

Buffalo District CELRB-CO-R RE: 96-494-0037(2) Section: OH 404

Application for Permit under Authority of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344).

The Zaremba Company, 868 Corporate Way, Westlake, Ohio 44145, proposes to construct a residential subdivision on an approximately 330 acre parcel located at the northeastern quadrant of the Broadview Road and Boston Road intersection, in the City of Broadview Heights, Cuyahoga County, Ohio.

The project consists of the following:

- a. Fill material will be placed into approximately 7.75 acres of Federal jurisdiction wetlands and approximately 2023 lineal feet of small headwater tributary streams to facilitate the construction of a 1,022 unit residential subdivision. The wetlands to be impacted consist of primarily scrub-shrub and emergent communities. The streams to be filled are small intermittent swales which connect some of the wetlands to be filled on the property. The proposed development is a mix of lot sizes and housing styles. The project design avoids the highest quality wetland areas on the project site and preserves large wetland corridor areas.
- As mitigation for the unavoidable impacts to waters of the United States, the applicant proposes to restore approximately 13.2 acres of wetland on the project site. These restoration areas are anticipated to develop into a mix of emergent, scrub-shrub and forested communities. In addition, the applicant has proposed to permanently preserve/protect a total of approximately 109.5 acres of land on the project site including the mitigation area, approximately 37.8 acres of Category 3 wetlands, as classified under the Ohio EPA Rapid Assessment Method, approximately 4.2 acres of lower quality wetlands and approximately 54.3 acres of upland buffer/stormwater retention area. In addition, the wetland corridor on the western portion of the property which is part of the preservation area contains approximately 2,000-2,500 feet of a perennial tributary to the East Branch of the Rocky River. Following construction of the mitigation area, the applicant proposes to deed the preservation area to a responsible party for long-term management.

The applicant's stated purpose is to construct a residential subdivision with a mix of single family homes, cluster homes and townhomes.

Location and details of the above described work are shown on the attached maps and drawings.

Questions pertaining to the work described in this notice should be directed to Steven V. Metivier, who can be contacted by calling (716) 879-4314, or by e-mail at: Steven.V.Metivier@usace.army.mil

The following authorization(s) may be required for this project:

Water Quality Certification (or waiver thereof) from the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency.

There are no registered historic properties or properties listed as being eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places that will be affected by this project.

In addition, available evidence indicates that the proposed work will not affect a species proposed or designated by the U.S. Department of the Interior as threatened or endangered, nor will it affect the critical habitat of any such species.

This notice is promulgated in accordance with Title 33, Code of Federal Regulations, parts 320-330. Any interested party desiring to comment on the work described herein may do so by submitting their comments, in writing, so that they are received no later than 4:30 pm on the expiration date of this notice.

Comments should be sent to the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, 1776 Niagara Street, Buffalo, New York 14207-3199, and should be marked to the attention of Steven V. Metivier, or by e-mail at: Steven.V.Metivier@usace.army.mil. A lack of response will be interpreted as meaning that there is no objection to the work as proposed.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be fully considered during the public interest review for this permit application. All written comments will be made a part of the administrative record. Due to resource limitations, this office will normally not acknowledge the receipt of comments or respond to individual letters of comment.

Any individual may request a public hearing by submitting their written request, stating the specific reasons for holding a hearing, in the same manner and time period as other comments.

Public hearings for the purposes of the Corps permit program will be held when the District Commander determines he can obtain additional information, not available in written comments, that will aid him in the decision making process for this application. A Corps hearing is not a source of information for the general public, nor a forum for the resolution of issues or conflicting points of view (witnesses are not sworn and cross examination is prohibited). Hearings will not be held to obtain information on issues unrelated to the work requiring a permit, such as property ownership, neighbor disputes, or the behavior or actions of the public or applicant on upland property not regulated by the Department of the Army. Information obtained from a public hearing is given no greater weight than that obtained from written comments. Therefore, you should not fail to make timely written comments because a hearing might be held.

The decision to approve or deny this permit request will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact, including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefits which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among these are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership, and in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

Paul G. Leuchner Chief, Regulatory Branch

NOTICE TO POSTMASTER: It is requested that this notice be posted continuously and conspicuously for 30 days from the date of issuance.